

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6529

BILL NUMBER: SB 255

DATE PREPARED: Dec 30, 2000

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Historic Bridges.

FISCAL ANALYST: Bernadette Bartlett

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**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides an annual grant that counties may request based upon the number of historic bridges in the county and subject to the amount appropriated from the State General Fund for historic bridge maintenance grants. The county executive must use the grant money for the maintenance of historic bridges or covered bridges. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Natural Resources Study Committee.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill contains no appropriations. However, subject to appropriations made by the General Assembly, the bill authorizes an annual grant of \$1,250 to counties for each historic bridge that is located on the county's road system. Before September 1 of each year, the Auditor of State must distribute from the State General Fund to each county the total amount to which the county is entitled based on the number of bridges. This provision may increase administrative expenses for the Auditor; however, the Office of the Auditor would probably be able to absorb any additional expenses given its current budget.

In order to qualify for a grant, the bridge must be listed in the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures and/or the National Register of Historic Places. Currently, approximately 600 bridges may be eligible. If all 600 received funding, the total annual impact would equal \$750,000 (\$1,250 grant per bridge * 600 bridges). More bridges may be listed on the State and/or National Register in the future in order to be eligible for the grant.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: County executives may use the grant money only to maintain historic bridges or covered bridges. Counties may commingle and accumulate grant money received to preserve the

historic bridges.

Explanation of Local Revenues: Counties may be eligible to receive \$1,250 for each historic bridge.

State Agencies Affected: Auditor of State.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: Marsh Davis, Director of Community Services, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, (317) 639-4534; and John Saldibar, Division of Historic Preservation, Department of Natural Resources, (317) 232-3492.